

game services of at least one of a bonus game, a progressive game and combinations thereof to the plurality of gaming machines using the received game information.

17. A method for providing game services to a group of gaming machines connected in a network using a gaming machine having a master gaming controller and a game server, the method comprising:

communicating with one or more gaming machines on the gaming machine network wherein each gaming machine presents a game to a player playing a game on the gaming machine;

determining that a [network] gaming service is required for one or more gaming machines in the network; [and]

receiving game information used to provide the gaming service from the one or more gaming machines;

executing a server operation using the received game information to generate the[to provide a network] gaming service for one or more gaming machines in the network; and

providing the game service to the one or more gaming machines in the network wherein the game service is at least one of a bonus game, a progressive game and combinations thereof.

29. A method for providing game configurations to a group of gaming machines connected in a network using a gaming machine having a master gaming controller and a game server, the method comprising,

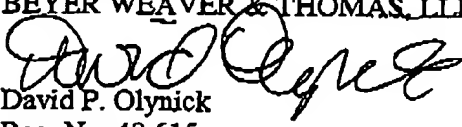
configuring a first gaming machine capable of presenting a game of chance[to present a game] with at least one of hardware settings, software settings and combinations thereof;

storing the game configuration information to the game server on said first gaming machine wherein the game configuration information comprises at least one of the hardware settings, the software settings and combinations thereof; and

downloading the game configuration information [for the game] to a second gaming machine from the game server on said first gaming machine wherein the second gaming machine is capable of configuring itself using the downloaded game configuration information from the first gaming machine[allows the master gaming controller on said second gaming machine to present the game on said first gaming machine;].

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